

Platax teira (Forsskal, 1775)



Photography By: Ramin Ketabi
Editor: Shahla Jamili (IFSRI)

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Actinopterygii
Order: Perciformes

Family: Ephippidae
Genus: *Platax*
Species: *P. teira*

Platax teira, also known as the teira batfish, longfin batfish, longfin spadefish is known to associate with floating seaweed, debris and artificial reefs. We report for the **first time from Persian Gulf (Kish Island, Iran)**. Maximum length is 40-50 cm in **Persian Gulf**. Juveniles and adults occur inshore on protected reefs and in mangrove areas and also on wrecks and deep reefs to 20 m; they may be solitary, in pairs, or in large schools. Small juveniles with floating debris and form aggregations as they find each other. They can be pelagic to large sizes and form schools under large *Sargassum* rafts that usually form after the wet season. Like most spadefishes, this species is unafraid of divers. Flesh excellent, or rank, with a weedy flavor. The long-finned juveniles are valuable in the aquarium fish trade.

Food: *Platax teira* feeds on algae, zooplankton, and benthic invertebrates. Caught with hook-and-line, palisade traps, spear, trawls, and hand nets.

Distribution: Tropical and subtropical waters of the Indo-West Pacific region from the Red Sea to South Africa, Japan (Hokkaido), Taiwan Province of China, Philippines, Indonesia, New Guinea, northern Australia, Melanesia and Persian Gulf.



①	26° 30' 30.99" N	④	26° 32' 55.84" N
②	54° 22' 59.43" E	⑤	53° 54' 0.11" E
③	26° 32' 22.52" N		
	54° 2' 0.07" E		
	26° 34' 17.50" N		
	53° 58' 20.61" E		